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PROGRAM Nightwatch

STATION WDM-TV
CBS Network

DATE April 7, 1986 3:00 A.M. CITY Washington, D.C.

SUBJECT The Role of the CIA

CHARLIE ROSE: It's been called the Reagan Doctrine. The United States more and more is using its money and arms to support what the Administration calls freedom fighters around the world. And the CIA, led by William Casey, is said by some to be at the forefront of this foreign policy.

In Nicaragua, U.S. support helps the Contras in their fight to overthrow the Sandinista government. And the White House wants the aid increased.

In Cambodia, anti-communist guerrillas fight, with American assistance, to win control of the regime in Phnom Penh.

In Angola, the U.S. is gearing up to help Jonas Savimbi's UNITA rebels battle the Soviet and Cuban-backed government.

The Administration already has reportedly considered a plan to overthrow Muammar Qaddafi. Will the Libyan leader be the CIA's next target?

The Central Intelligence Agency has grown influential and powerful during the last five years, under Casey's guidance. It's budget has grown faster than that of the Defense Department. It's fund for secret missions is much larger than at any time since the Vietnam War. The agency is rapidly leaving behind an era when it was wracked by purges and investigations.

But some say the CIA is now so potent a force that it is in danger of being out of control.

MAN: The CIA is not and was never meant to be a para-

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